CAREER INITIATIVE (CI) PROGRESS

1. After Provost Sarah Mangelsdorf presented the L&S Career Initiative to the Board of Regents’ Education Committee on Thursday, 2/5/2015, Regent Millner requested copies of the Career Initiative materials to send to the Wisconsin Legislature.

2. The L&S Career Initiative makes the news again!
   - Cultural, peer pressure dissuades students from the humanities (Badger Herald, February 9, 2015)
   - Initiative helps L&S students chart their futures (Badger Parent Newsletter, February 2015)

3. Ten alumni will serve on the L&S Career Initiative Committee, an advisory group that will have its first meeting this week to discuss employer engagement strategies. Eight of the ten members serve on the L&S Board of Visitors.

LEVERAGE YOUR BOARD OF VISITORS FOR ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

Department Boards of Visitors will be meeting beginning in March and continuing until May. During the fall meetings, L&S Career Initiative staff used these gatherings to engage alumni on issues ranging from an overview of new and establish career programs to specific challenges facing each department. Topics ranged from LinkedIn and social media to the development of internship and mentorship programs. We would be delighted to speak with boards again this spring. To discuss these opportunities, please email or call David Nelson, Director of Alumni Professional Networks and Career Resources at denelson3@wisc.edu or 608-354-8516.

☀️ BRIGHT SPOT

The Cartography Lab hosted the 2015 Design Challenge on Valentine’s Day, supported by a grant from the Mellon Foundation on the topic of "spatial humanities" and the UW Center for the Humanities. Students spent eight intense hours together to make a visual story with messy, real-world data about hazardous waste trade in North America. Students experienced a typical day in a job utilizing data visualization and analysis in the public or private sector. Faculty, staff, and a visiting scholar were on hand to help the students achieve the goals they had set for themselves, such as using new technology to achieve the creation of interactive maps, or linking additional data for a more complex analysis, or performing appropriate types of analysis on the data. The students gained newly found confidence, a portfolio piece, a unique design experience to discuss with prospective employers, and deeper connections with one another and the consultants. This event embodied the philosophy of the Cartography Lab in the Geography department.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Visit: http://go.wisc.edu/lsci or email: careerinitiative@ls.wisc.edu